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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:  
Hideji Tajima

Serial No.: United States National Phase  
of PCT/JP00/00204

Filed: Herewith

For: CONCENTRATION DEVICE USING  
MAGNETIC PARTICLES AND METHOD  
THEREFOR

§ Attorney Docket No.: 10287.45  
§  
§ I. A. Filing Date: January 18, 2000  
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§ Priority Date: January 18, 1999  
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Attention: DO/EO/US  
Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to the initial examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page 18, replace paragraph 1 with the following:

A1  
In this embodiment, a shift section (not shown) for shifting a stage on which the concentration device 10 itself and the container are placed is provided. Moreover, there are provided a stepping motor 20 provided in the pressure adjustment device of the concentration device 10, a computer serving as a control device for controlling the magnetic field of the magnetic force device 13, a display section such as CRT, a keyboard, a mouse, an input section of a reader for reading a recording medium on which a program and data are stored, such as a floppy disk, a CD or a MD, and an information processing unit (not shown) having a communication section for connecting to the Internet or the like.

On page 19, replace paragraph 1 with the following:

A2  
The respective liquid passages 11, 12 are communicated with a storage section 32 via a connecting section 14. The storage section 32 has a cylindrical housing 32a, and at the bottom portion thereof, has the connecting section 14 fitted to the housing 32a and secured thereto by